



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **WR-2**

May 23, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2718

Dear Supervisors:

**SAN GABRIEL CANYON SEDIMENT REMOVAL METHOD
BURRO CANYON SEDIMENT PLACEMENT SITE
AWARD CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Award and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute a consultant services agreement with Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., to evaluate the feasibility of sediment removal and transport from San Gabriel Reservoir to Burro Canyon Sediment Placement Site for a not to exceed fee of \$378,000 to be financed from the Fiscal Year 2001-02 Flood Control District Fund and establish the effective contract date following your Board's approval.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

We are recommending that your Board award the consultant services agreement and authorize the Director of Public Works to execute the agreement with Parsons for the feasibility study and establish the effective contract date following your Board's approval. Public Works owns, operates, and maintains San Gabriel Dam and Reservoir on the San Gabriel River. On average, approximately one million cubic yards of sediment are annually deposited in the reservoir. Despite several excavation and sluicing projects since the dam's construction in the 1930s, there are currently approximately 14 million cubic yards of sediment deposited in the reservoir. The sediment accumulation in the Reservoir has

severely diminished the flood control and water conservation benefits of this facility. The deposition of sediment in proximity to the dam's outlet tower also poses a threat of clogging the dam's outlet valves, thereby threatening its operational capability.

In June 1998, your Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the San Gabriel Canyon Sediment Management Plan. The approved sediment management regime for San Gabriel Reservoir was biennial sluicing of two million cubic yards of sediment out of the facility into the downstream Morris Reservoir, out of which the material would be sluiced the following year. At the time of the EIR certification, Burro Canyon, which is located upstream of San Gabriel Reservoir and contains a previously used sediment placement site, was no longer being recommended for use due to the U.S. Forest Service's concerns about conflicts with a shooting range on the site. In the fall of 1998, Public Works sluiced sediment out of Morris Reservoir that had been deposited in the facility by a sluicing operation at San Gabriel Reservoir in 1992. Several regulatory agencies and other stakeholders have subsequently expressed their concerns about the impacts from the 1998 sluicing operation and requested Public Works to reexamine alternatives to sluicing the facilities. Also, the Forest Service has informed Public Works that it is willing to reconsider the use of Burro Canyon for sediment placement, although it still desires compatibility with the on-site shooting range.

This study is to reevaluate the practicality and cost effectiveness of dredging or excavating San Gabriel Reservoir and using Burro Canyon as a final sediment placement site as the long-term sediment maintenance plan at San Gabriel Reservoir. The goal of the maintenance plan is to, at a minimum, prevent any further loss of storage capacity at the reservoir. Therefore, the study will evaluate the feasibility of removing at least one million cubic yards of sediment annually from the reservoir to ensure the rate of sediment removal will compensate for the average annual sediment inflow.

Upon the completion of this feasibility study, we will return to your Board for approval of the recommended implementation plan.

IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

This contract meets Public Works' Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence since the feasibility study will seek to maintain our flood control facilities and provide flood protection to residents, which improves the quality of life in the County, and respond to the local communities' (stakeholders') requests for improved service to them.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Financing for the total project costs are available in the Fiscal Year 2001-02 Flood Control District Fund. There will be no impact to Public Works' General Fund.

The recommended agreement for consultant services is for a not to exceed fee of \$378,000. This includes a base fee of \$343,043 and \$34,957 for unforeseen additional services that may arise during the progress of the study. Additional work within this allowance will not be performed without prior written authorization from the Director of Public Works.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A standard consultant services agreement in the form previously approved by County Counsel will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination, renegotiation, and hiring qualified displaced Public Works employees will be included.

As requested by your Board on August, 12, 1997, and as a threshold requirement for consideration of a contract award, Parsons is willing to consider Greater Avenues for Independence Program participants for future employment.

Parsons is in full compliance with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.200 (Child Support Compliance Program).

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the consultant services agreement stating that the consultant shall notify its employees and shall require each subconsultant to notify its employees that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The award of this consultant services agreement is statutorily exempt from CEQA as specified in Section 15262 of the State's CEQA Guidelines. Any project that may be proposed as a result of these services will undergo the appropriate environmental review.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Public Works maintains a database of consultants for various services, which is the main source of soliciting proposals. On March 12, 2002, a Request for Proposal was issued to 32 firms from Public Works' list of qualified consultants to accomplish the services. On April 1, 2002, two proposals were received.

The proposals were evaluated by a committee consisting of three members from Public Works, one member from the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster, and one member from the Los Angeles and San Gabriel River Watershed Council. The evaluations were based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the requirements. The evaluations and selection were completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. Based on the review and evaluation of the proposals, the committee found Parsons to be the best qualified to perform the recommended services.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, and to further increase consultant awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, the Request for Proposals for these services was listed on the County's Office of Small Business website.

Participation by Community Business Enterprise (CBE) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith effort to utilize CBEs. Parsons is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and its CBE participation data and three-year contracting history are on file with Public Works.

Public Works has evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to the recommended agreement as this agreement is for non-Proposition A services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no adverse impact on current services or projects during the performance of the recommended services.

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CONCLUSION

Please return one approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel